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# ENG 1002-002: Composition and Literature

Debra Valentino

*Eastern Illinois University*

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Policy Statement and Course Description  
English 1002G, Composition and Literature, Section 002  
8:00—9:15 a.m., TR

**Instructor:** Debra Valentino  
**Office:** CH 3836  
**Campus Phone:** 581-6987  
**E-mail:** davalentino@eiu.edu

**Office Hours:** Tuesday and Thursday  
11—12:15, 1:45—2:15  
and by appointment

**Texts:**

The Story and Its Writer, Charters, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Poetry: A Pocket Anthology, Gwynn, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Writing About Literature, Roberts, 10<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Drama: A Pocket Anthology, Gwynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.  
The Blair Handbook, Fulwiler, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.  
The American Heritage Dictionary, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.

**Course Description:** English 1002 is a general education writing course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts, as well as a survey in the reading of literary genres including short fiction, drama, poetry, and film. The prerequisite for this course is successful completion of English 1001G or its transferred equivalent.

**Course Objectives** – To improve students' abilities to:

- read and understand literary texts
- discuss and analyze literary texts
- write fluently about literary texts
- demonstrate a close familiarity with a text
- write in standard edited English
- think creatively and develop ideas

**Class Participation:** All outside readings must be completed by the start of the class period for which they were assigned. Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to class discussions. Student participation is best supported by active, responsible reading of all course material. In addition, students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in the classroom. Performance in this category will be factored into final grading by being awarded a point value (see grade distribution below).

**Homework:** A reading and/or writing assignment will be given nearly every class period, and will usually be due the following class period. Our goal will be to spend a minimum of five hours working outside of class per week, as established by the Department of English.

**Written Assignments / Drafts and Essays:** In addition to several written exercises, assignments and hand-outs, students will develop, revise, and edit a total of four essays both in and out of class. Many pages of drafting, writing, and revising will go into each essay. In order to receive the benefits of peer evaluation and instructor guidance, several "workshops" will be held throughout the semester. Drafts will be checked and discussed during these times, with student progress assessed on each of the drafts. In addition, peer review sessions may be conducted with some responses collected for credit (as part of the draft or final essay grade.)

**Note:** Be sure to bring all drafts on current essays to all class meetings,  
including both electronic and hard copies.

As specific assignments are made, drafts will be expected to meet specified criteria, and the instructor will clarify the objectives as the student builds awareness and works through the writing process. For example, you may write an essay, but then be expected to develop an argument supporting your thesis, or further modify or subordinate sentences as you learn to refine these specific techniques. Often, you will be given a rubric, a handout, or a checklist to help manage the writing process, and to help master various writing skills that will assist you in completing a polished final draft.

All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period.

**Late Work:** Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the due date. If no extension has been granted, late papers will be marked down ten points for each missed class period.

**Note:** All final drafts must be submitted to complete this course. Failure to submit an essay will result in a grade of N/C (No Credit) for the course.

**Quizzes:** Five to ten quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Some will be scheduled, but some will be unannounced or announced only in the preceding class. Points from quizzes will be added and averaged, then factored into final grades as listed in the grade distribution below.

**Attendance:** Regular attendance is expected. When an absence does occur, it is the absent student's responsibility to get all class information (including schedule/assignment modifications) from another class member. Students should use the class phone list to consult classmates regarding missed material and assignments. Once informed, students may then e-mail, visit, or telephone the instructor with specific questions. Failure to comply with this policy will result in lowered class participation points.

**Absences/ Missed Work:** Students who are ill must telephone the instructor on the day of their absence, and report Health Service visits upon their return to class. Because we cover a great deal of material each class meeting, multiple absences may adversely affect one's writing, and ultimately one's final grade. Any student with poor attendance should set up a conference as soon as possible. If you wait until the end of the semester to express concern over attendance problems, it will most likely be too late to compensate for missed work.

**Note:** E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. The server may be down, or I may not be near a terminal to retrieve your message. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a supplemental means of communication. Also, do not assume that all reported absences are excused.

**Make-up Work:** No make-ups will be given for missed in-class exercises or quizzes. Missed essays due to an excused absence may be made up within two weeks of the student's return to class, but only with permission and at the instructor's discretion. If the absence is unexcused (no note, no phone call, or without approval) make-ups are not allowed.

**Grades:** All essay grades will be evaluated using the "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department" (attached) and averaged using the following scale:

90—100	A
80—89	B
70—79	C
60—69	D
below 59	F

**Note:** If a student fails to follow instructions, or writes an essay in the wrong mode (e.g., expressive vs. expository), an "N/C" (No Credit) may be given for the paper. Note also, that no "Ds" or "Fs" will be given for the final course grade. Students averaging points below 70% will receive a grade of N/C as defined by the core curriculum standards of the Department. In order to receive credit for the course, the student must submit all final drafts in a timely manner and earn a "C" or better.

**Grade Distribution** – Assignments will count for the following points:

Drafts (3)	50 (10/20/20)
Quizzes (5--10)	50—100
Drama Essay I	100
In- Class Essay II	50
Fiction Essay III	100
Poetry Research Essay IV	200
Mid-term Exam	200
Final Exam	200
Class Participation	50—100

**Plagiarism:** Students must familiarize themselves with the English Department's statement on plagiarism. If the student has clearly plagiarized, the instructor reserves the right to award the essay in question a grade of N/C. According to the standards set by the Eastern Illinois University Department of English, the policy for plagiarism is as follows: "Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources."

~ DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR GRADE WITH AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY! ~  
IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY INTEGRATING YOUR RESEARCH, SET UP A CONFERENCE.

**Conferences:** One conference per semester is mandatory. Feel free to see me throughout the semester whenever questions or concerns arise.

**Electronic Writing Portfolios (EWP):** As outlined in the undergraduate catalog, the university requires that all students submit writing samples from writing-centered courses such as this one. In order to receive approval from this instructor for this semester's coursework, students must submit their selections no later than Thursday, November 16, 2006. Forms may be downloaded off the internet from the following address: <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/>. For instructions on how to submit an essay, see the attached document, "To Submit to the Electronic Writing Portfolio." Also included is the rubric for evaluation (see attachment.)

**Writing Center:** The writing center is at the end of the northeast corridor on the third floor of Coleman Hall in Room 3110. Students of Comp 1002G are encouraged to take their writing concerns to this center at any time throughout the semester. This is not a proofreading or editing service, but rather, a place where confusion and uncertainty about composition can be remedied. Also, if you are having particular problems with grammar and the mechanics of writing, this is the place (other than your handbook) to turn to for help.

Hours for Fall 2006 are: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and 6 – 9 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

In addition, you may receive free tutorial help by calling **581-5929**.

The writing center web address is:

<http://www.eiu.edu/~writing/>

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (**581-6583**) as soon as possible.

The Final Exam for this Course is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_.

**Schedule of Assignments – Revised 9/14/06**

August 22, 2006	Course Introduction
August 24, 2006	<b>Diagnostic Essay I – In Class</b>
August 29, 2006	Sophocles, “Oedipus the King” pp. 39-55 <u>Drama</u> , Gwynn, pp. 5-22
August 31, 2006	Sophocles, “Oedipus the King” pp. 56-88 <u>Drama</u> , Gwynn, pp. 29-36
September 5, 2006	August Wilson, “Fences” Act 1, pp. 451-491
September 7, 2006	“Fences” Act 2, pp. 491-520 Identify themes, and Troy’s “profound heights of expression”
September 12, 2006	Composition Workshop
September 14, 2006	<b>Drama Essay II Draft Due</b>
September 19, 2006	<i>Roberts</i> , Ch 1. pp. 1-44 “The Necklace” pp. 5-12
	<b>Drama Essay II Due</b>
September 21, 2006	“A Small, Good Thing” pp. 81-98
September 26, 2006	“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” pp. 619-31
September 28, 2006	“What We Talk About When We Talk About Love” pp. 98-107 “Hills Like White Elephants” pp. 340-43
October 3, 2006	“Young Goodman Brown” pp. 329-38
October 5, 2006	<b>Midterm Exam</b>
October 10, 2006	“A Good Man is Hard to Find” pp. 658-69
October 12, 2006	“The Lottery” pp. 381-87 “Sonny’s Blues” pp. 25-47
October 17, 2006	Fiction Essay III – Workshop
October 19, 2006	<b>Fiction Essay III – Draft Due</b>

October 24, 2006 Introduction to Poetry  
October 26, 2006 **Fiction Essay III Due**

October 31, 2006 Library Orientation  
November 2, 2006 selected poems TBA

November 7, 2006 **Research Exercise 1 due**  
November 9, 2006 selected poems TBA

November 14, 2006 selected poems TBA  
November 16, 2006 **Research Exercise 2 due**

November 20-24 Thanksgiving Recess

November 28, 2006 **Research Exercise 3 due**  
November 30, 2006 selected poems TBA

December 5, 2006 **Research Exercise 4 due**  
December 7, 2006 **Research Essay IV Due**

**Final Exam: Monday, December 11, 2006  
8:00-10:00 a.m.**